

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 598  
By Crutchfield

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. Gus J. Vlasis of Chattanooga.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Gus J. Vlasis of Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vlasis was a well-known local physician, and the former Chief of Surgery at Erlanger Medical Center as well as former county physician; a consummate professional, he worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vlasis was a surgeon in Chattanooga for more than fifty years, earning the respect of his peers and patients alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, born February 9, 1918, in Fort Worth, Texas, Gus Vlasis moved to Chattanooga as a young child; he was a 1937 graduate of Chattanooga High School, and attended the University of Chattanooga, University of Tennessee College of Medicine, and Erlanger School of Medicine, ultimately finishing his residency at Horsely Clinic in Richmond, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vlasis was a veteran of World War II, during which he served with courage and distinction as a Captain in the United States Army Medical Corps, dropping behind enemy lines on fact-finding missions; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many professional accomplishments, Gus Vlasis fought bulls in Mexico City with legendary Spanish matador Manolete in 1947; and

WHEREAS, devoted to giving back to his community, Dr. Gus Vlasis was master of Mountain City Lodge 549 in 1965; he was a member of the 33<sup>rd</sup> degree Scottish Rite Mason, the Alhambra Shrine, the Royal Order of Scotland Jesters, and the Red Cross of Constantine, and also served as grand master of the Masons of Tennessee for two terms in 1977 and 1986; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gus Vlasis was an active and devout member of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vlasis was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, by his passing, he was reunited with his parents, John K. and Stravoula Chokas Vlasis, and his beloved son, Nicholas G. Vlasis; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gus Vlasis enjoyed the loving companionship of his devoted wife of fifty-six years, Marie Roupas Vlasis; he was also survived by his sister, Koula V. Vaught; son, John Gus and wife, Charlotte Vlasis; daughter, Constance Vlasis Fong and husband, Eugene; daughter-in-law, Anita Vlasis; grandchildren, Gus Pappas-Fong, Mary Christine Vlasis, Dean Vlasis, Nicole Vlasis, and Erik Fong; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gus J. Vlasis leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional surgeon, public servant, and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Dr. Gus J. Vlasis, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character as a professional and a civic leader and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family and many friends of Dr. Gus J. Vlasis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.